and women for the same work or work of a similar nature without any discrimination. This Act is implemented by the respective State Governments for the areas under their jurisdiction and monitored by the Central Government. The State Governments are also addressed from time to time to ensure strict compliance of the provisions of the Act. For the areas under the Central Governments, the Act is implemented by the office of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central). In addition, there is no discrimination in wages on gender basis under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. This Act provides for fixation and revision of minimum rates of wages in employments.

Social security to unemployed muslims

173. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken/propose to take steps to provide social security to the unemployed persons, most particularly the muslims, in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to cover all those who could not be provided employment within a specific period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) There is a dedicated Ministry *viz.* Ministry of Minority Affairs to look after the funding of programmes and projects for the welfare of minorities including unemployed muslims. This Ministry is also having the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation under its jurisdiction to finance schemes for the welfare of minorities.

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 has been enacted to guarantee hundred days of employment in a year to any rural household including unemployed muslims.

A large number of benefits are extended under various social welfare schemes formulated by the Government for unemployed persons including muslims. Whilst formulating these welfare schemes, Government takes into account the needs and concerns of all the communities including the minorities.

Deteriorating condition of labourers working in unorganised sector

†174. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers working in organised as well as unorganised sector separately in the country;

(b) whether his Ministry has made any assessment of the deteriorating condition of labourers in the unorganised sector; and

(c) if so, the measures being taken to improve the condition of labourers in unorgansied sector in the existing scheme?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.